

## **Submission by Saudi Arabia**

### Submission of Views on the Forum and Work Programme on the Impact of the Implementation of Response Measures

#### **Area (c) - Assessment and Analysis of Impacts**

Saudi Arabia welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on thematic area (c) of the work program of the forum on the impacts of the implementation of response measures.

The forum has provided a great opportunity for substantial exchange of information in 2012; Saudi Arabia looks forward to continuing the collaboration effort that have started to facilitate the understanding of the impacts of response measures, with the view to avoid, or at least minimize, the adverse consequences of those measures on developing country Parties. It is our view that the forum will continue to serve as a catalyst for collaborative effort and joint action, which will guide the development of effective, comprehensive and enabling framework under the UNFCCC to address the adverse impacts of response measures on developing Countries.

Developing country Parties have experienced impacts of many response measure taken by developed country Parties. The effort to address those impacts have started in Articles 4.8 and 4.9 of the UNFCCC and articles 2.3 and 3.14 of the Kyoto Protocol which have provided the foundation for the basic obligations and commitments of Annex I Parties in relation to the impacts of their climate change response measures. A number of decisions followed to provide guidelines with respect to the actions, implementation, and reporting activities related to these commitments, e.g. Decisions 9/CP.7, 5/CP.7, 1/CP.10, 15/CMP.1, and 31/CMP.1. We expect the work program to examine elements in these decisions, which remain unimplemented, to make the distinction between actions that will be implemented at national level and those that will be carried out through Parties' partnership under the Convention.

Saudi Arabia believes that thematic area (c) on the **Assessment and analysis of impacts** of response measures should deploy a comprehensive approach in examining the different policies and measures taken to combat climate change and the potential adverse impacts they could introduce to developing country Parties. Assessment and analysis of those measures should not be conducted in isolation of well-established understanding of the climate change mitigation actions that warranted them to exist. It is only too late to wait and act in retrospect on the basis of the impact on the ground without adequately addressing the policies. Therefore, the discussion should explore potential methodologies to produce standardized reporting on the mitigation actions and policies that will improve the analysis, predictability and gauging the effectiveness of Annex I Parties' response measures.

Specific policy issues of concern, such as unilateral measures should be sufficiently and individually examined to identify different elements of reporting, measurement and analysis considering their potential severe and adverse impact. It is our view that whilst unbiased and balanced actions that will ensure positive impact of response measures should be examined

and underscored as alternatives, other actions that cause negative impact on developing countries such as unilateral trade measures against goods and services need to be examined in an all-embracing manner to examine the effect on supply chain of production, export, and procurement patterns from developing countries, and to assess the effects and costs of shifting production and export patterns on the economies of developing Countries.

It is expected that the work under this area will guide the development of methodologies and specify criteria or indicators to measure the impacts of the implemented and proposed response measures, the impacts of the alternative measures that might be implemented, and to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of funding, insurance and technology transfer arrangements to minimize these impacts.

Similarly, examining the impacts on developing country Parties will require an equal level of collective assessment. Saudi Arabia believes that this exercise of partnership will necessarily address the need to distinguish between actions that will be carried out at national capacity from those that will be accomplished under the Convention. Therefore, we expect the work to explore current relevant data and reporting methodologies, lessons learned, gaps and uncertainties in assessment approaches at different levels in addition to existing relevant work and literature that can be helpful to perform the analysis of the impact domestically. A comprehensive work plan will also examine approaches that could minimize the adverse effects of response measures on developing Countries. Deploying an all-encompassing approach would allow the consideration and sharing of experiences across different economic sectors and social groups. That will also ensure that development, in collaboration with international organizations, of methodologies to evaluate the impacts on developing Countries by policies already implemented by Annex I Parties will result in effective and sufficient outcome.